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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief/PPS

DATE: 25 September 1958

FROM : Chief/LAS

SUBJECT: Killian Report

REF : Your Memorandum "Report to President's Board of Consultants on Foreign Intelligence Activities (Killian Committee)," 9 Sep 58

Since my last report, dated 19 March 1958:

1. The fifth fifteen-week trimester of the out-of-hours Voluntary Language Training Program (VLTP) began on 8 September. A total of 343 employees enrolled in 54 classes and are now studying 16 different languages before and after duty hours. Total individual student enrollments for the five trimesters have been 1405 and the total number of classes 197. Of the total number of students registered, slightly above 64% completed the trimesters. During the current trimester, instruction in the Voluntary Language Training Program is being offered for the first time in Armenian, Turkish and Swahili. Only one person has been employed for regular duty with the program, the Coordinator. Instruction has been provided by qualified employees from all parts of the Agency who teach outside of their regular duty hours. About 100 students whose proficiency was acquired primarily in the VLTP have been tested in the Agency Language Proficiency Testing Program and preliminary results indicate that a high proportion have attained a recognized level of useable proficiency.

2. The Agency Language Proficiency Testing Program was initiated in February of this year. Since that time, 1488 written examinations have been given in 35 languages and 822 oral tests have conducted in 19 languages. The large effort involved in composing and conducting the written and oral examinations was carried out chiefly by LAS staff assisted by volunteers from other components of the Agency.

3. Regular language and area training, and new activities reported in March, have continued.

4. Substantial interest has been devoted to developing a seriously-needed program on intercultural relations with concern for knowledge and attitudes required to improve effectiveness and quality of operations involving foreign contacts and relations. First experimental run will occur early in 1959.

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5. Of significance and seriousness is the Agency's inability to commit the people and devote the time required to provide foreign language competence essential for most effective and economical operations and research--with resulting continuation of "compradore operations" and precarious straining of intelligence by a "foreign interpreter system." There are many reasons for this distressing situation, and a few remedies that, however, are quarantined by personnel austerity and the demands for expediency in the present to the exclusion of developing for efficiency in the future.

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